Thursday, February 12, 2009

Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 14

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract through the TEXAS MULTIPLE AWARD SCHEDULE (TXMAS) with W.W. GRAINGER, INC., Austin, TX for the purchase of a Rotomac 340 escalator cleaner in an amount not to exceed \$68,885.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget of the Austin Convention Center.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Steve Cocke, Buyer II 512-974-2003

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9D of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). This contract is a Cooperative Purchase; therefore, it is exempted under Chapter 791 of the Texas Local Government Code and no goals were established for this solicitation.

This contract is for the purchase of one new Rotomac 340 professional escalator cleaner that will be used to clean all of the escalators for the Austin Convention Center. The Rotomac 340 is the only machine known to clean both the steps and the risers at the same time.

The Convention Center currently cleans all four of its escalators manually. The operation of this machine will considerably reduce the cleaning labor hours and escalator downtime since it completely cleans and dries the escalators in just a few hours as compared to days that it takes to clean manually. Keeping the escalators clean prolongs the life of the escalator and reduces major repairs and downtime.

W.W. Grainger, Inc. is under contract through TXMAS to provide this equipment to other public entities state-wide. This cooperative purchasing program is coordinated by the State of Texas, Comptroller of Public Accounts and allows the City to use TXMAS contracts that have been developed from contracts that were competitively bid and awarded by the General Services Administration's Federal Supply Service.